

Remarks:

This amendment is submitted in an earnest effort to advance this case to issue without delay.

The specification has been amended to eliminate some minor obvious errors. No new matter whatsoever has been added.

The claims have been amended in part by inserting into claim 1 the subject matter of claim 11, and by reciting in this claim the positive step of writing a code on an object.

With the system of this invention a code is written on an object in a fluorescent dye that does not fluoresce in the visible light spectrum. Thus it is possible to mark an object, for instance a windshield during manufacture, with a complex and even bulky code in a dyes in a thin layer that is transparent. When made to fluoresce, the code can be read by an apparatus tuned to "see" in the spectrum it fluoresces in. Thus the code can be read off the object at any time by someone who knows how to, but until then the code is in effect invisible. This has considerable utility, in particular with respect to objects that must be tracked and where no tampering can be tolerated.

It is the examiner's contention that US patent 6,303,929 of Oshima describes in column 24 at lines 21 through 33 to use a

"fluorescent dyestuff in which do not fluoresce." Instead this paragraph reads as follows:

In the optical reading apparatus according to each of the thirty-third and thirty-fourth inventions, when the mark is irradiated by the light from the light irradiating means, not only does the mark reflect the incoming light, but also an irradiated portion of the mark emits the fluorescent light of a particular wavelength. The incident light containing the reflected component and the fluorescent component is passed through the optical filtering means to selectively extract the light of a wavelength equal to that of the fluorescent length and is subsequently converted into an electric signal by the photoelectric converting means so that the electric signal can be processed by the waveform detecting means.

Thus what this passage states is that it is possible to filter the fluoresced light and read part of it. This is not a disclosure to use a dye that does not fluoresce in the visible spectrum. Thus the rejection of claim 11 under §103 on Oshima is incorrect. Incorporating claim 11 into claim 1 therefore makes claim 1 and all claims dependent on it allowable.

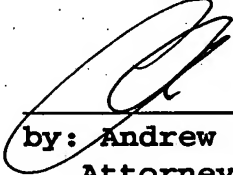
Claim 13 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 15. Nothing in Oshima suggests that light sources and detectors could be distributed over all the inner surfaces of a detection chamber.

The examiner's attention is further directed at claim 16 that recites the reflective surfaces of the detection chamber. Once again nothing in Oshima suggests this.

Thus all of the claims in the case are clearly in condition for allowance. Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If only minor problems that could be corrected by means of a telephone conference stand in the way of allowance of this case, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned to make the necessary corrections.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure: Corrected version of translation
Substitute Specification